

Amendment to IMPELLER AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SAME
Reuel S. Orocio, inventor
Serial No. 10/047,865
Filed January 15, 2002
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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 2 remain in this application. Claims 3-6 have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended.

The statement on page 4 of the last amendment directing the office to cancel Claims 1-5 was an obvious error which was picked up by the Examiner and ignored. The Examiner's action on this matter is appreciated.

The filing of the previous Declaration has now been altered to reflect the two inventor's names. Enclosed is a new Declaration which is believed will comply with the requirements of the Patent Office. Also enclosed, herewith, is the Disclosure which was not submitted in the last amendment. It is now believed that the submitting of the Declaration and the Disclosure should be effective to overcome U. S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0106277 with this publication no longer being usable as a reference.

The claims have also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Nagai, et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Within Nagai, et al, it is noted that the hub protrudes in the same direction as the shroud and Nagai, et al. does not teach the use of a separate annular inlet ring. What the Examiner

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is referring to is the annular inlet ring is also the shroud. Claim 1 has now been amended to specifically state that there is an annular inlet ring mounted on the shroud with the annular inlet ring and the sleeve being on opposite sides of the shroud and protrude in opposite directions from the shroud. There is no protruding in opposite directions of an annular inlet ring and a sleeve relative to a shroud within Nagai, et al.

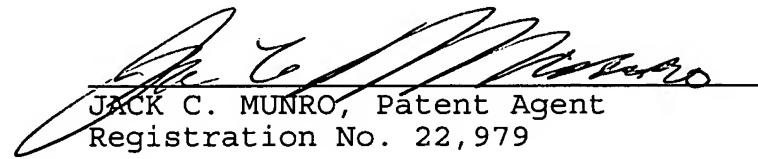
Regarding Claim 2, the annular inlet ring again is defined as protruding outwardly in a first direction from the shroud and a sleeve is defined as protruding outwardly from the shroud in a second direction with the second direction being opposite the first direction. No such structural arrangement is shown or suggested by Nagai, et al. Therefore, it is believed that Claim 2 clearly defines allowable subject matter.

In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims and arguments presented herein, it is believed that the claims as now submitted clearly define allowable subject matter over the references of record. It is courteously requested that this application be reconsidered, such reconsideration being favorable resulting in passing of this application to issue.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to account No. 13-4899.

Respectfully submitted,



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